

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
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R 250930Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4556
INFO AMEMBASSY BERN
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY HELSINKI
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK
AMEMBASSY VIENNA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STOCKHOLM 3292

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PARM, PCAT, ESTC, TECH, SW
SUBJECT: SWEDISH COMMENTS ON TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER AND THE BUCY
REPORT

1. AS PART OF THE REACTION TO THE VIGGEN DECISION,
IN PARTICULAR, AND TO US ARMS TRANSFER AND TECHNOLOGY
TRANSFER IN GENERAL, THERE SEEMS TO BE A WIDESPREAD
APPRECIATION IN SWEDEN THAT THE SO-CALLED BUCY
REPORT IS NOW THE GOVERNING FACTOR IN US POLICY.
THIS SOMEWHAT DATED NON-OFFICIAL PAPER CALLED FOR A
MUCH STRICTER APPROACH TO US TECHNOLOGY TRANSFERS
AND WAS SEEN HERE AS RECOMMENDING THE LUMPING OF
NEUTRALS, INCLUDING WESTERN-ORIENTED NEUTRALS,
WITH THE COMMUNIST COUNTRIES FOR TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER
PURPOSES.

2. DURING THE PAST WEEK, WE HAVE BEEN STRUCK BY THE
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FREQUENCY WITH WHICH THE BUCY REPORT HAS BEEN CITED
AS THE PRESUMED BACKGROUND TO US POLICY. A VICE
PRESIDENT OF BOFORS, FOR EXAMPLE, SHARPLY CRITICIZED
THE VIGGEN DECISION TO THE AMBASSADOR AND DATT
DURING A VISIT TO THE BOFORS PLANT AND REPEATEDLY
CITED THE BUCY REPORT. THE AMBASSADOR WAS ALSO STRUCK
BY THE FACT THAT DEPUTY SECRETARY OF COMMERCE NORDENFALK

(BURENSTAM LINDER'S DEPUTY), IN A MUCH MORE FRIENDLY CONVERSATION, REFERRED TO THE BUCY REPORT AS "BOTHERSOME." A LEADING JOURNALIST SIMILARLY REFERRED TO THE BUCY REPORT IN A CONVERSATION WITH THE DCM AS DID A MODERATE PARTY POLITICIAN.

3. WE HAVE TAKEN THE LINE THAT THE BUCY REPORT IS NOT TO THE BEST OF OUR KNOWLEDGE THE BASIS OF US POLICY, THAT IT WAS A PRIVATE AND SOMEWHAT DATED STUDY AND REPRESENTED THE VIEWS OF ITS AUTHORS RATHER THAN BEING US GOVERNMENT POLICY. WE HAVE ALSO TRIED TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN ARMS TRANSFER POLICY AND TECHNOLOGY TRANSFERS AND ADVISED AGAINST OVERLY-SIMPLE GENERALIZATIONS. THESE ARGUMENTS HAVE CARRIED WEIGHT WITH OUR INTERLOCUTORS (INSOFAR AS WE CAN PURSUE THEM ON THE BASIS OF OUR OWN LIMITED GRASP OF THE SUBJECT) BUT THEY CAN HARDLY OVERCOME A SET OF OPINIONS THAT ARE APPARENTLY BECOMING VERY WIDE-SPREAD IN SWEDISH SOCIETY. SOME OF THE COMMENTS FROM OUR INTERLOCUTORS FOLLOWING OUR DISCUSSION HAVE BEEN "YES, BUT THE BUCY REPORT STILL LIVES IN PRACTICE" OR "PERHAPS I OVERSTATED THE CASE BUT THE BASIC POINT IS VALID" OR "YOU MAY BE RIGHT BUT YOU WILL HAVE AN ENORMOUS JOB TO TURN AROUND SWEDISH OPINION."

4. WE WOULD BE INTERESTED TO KNOW WHETHER OTHER
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POSTS, PARTICULARLY NEUTRAL EUROPEAN COUNTRIES LIKE SWITZERLAND AND AUSTRIA, HAVE HAD SIMILAR FEEDBACK CONCERNING THE BUCY REPORT. PERHAPS THE DEPARTMENT AND ICA CAN COME UP WITH SOME PROGRAM SUGGESTIONS ON HOW TO PLACE OUR POLICIES IN PROPER PERSPECTIVE INCLUDING TREATMENT OF THE BUCY REPORT IN PARTICULAR.

5. WE ALSO BELIEVE IT WOULD BE HIGHLY USEFUL TO RECEIVE UP-TO-DATE GUIDANCE ON OUR TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER POLICY AS WELL AS OUR ARMS TRANSFER POLICY AND THE INTER-RELATIONSHIPS AND DISTINCTIONS INVOLVED. FROM OUR SWEDISH PERSPECTIVE, THIS WHOLE AREA IS BECOMING INCREASINGLY SENSITIVE FOR OUR OVERALL POLICY. WE SHOULD BE VERY CLEAR WHERE WE STAND AND WHERE WE ARE GOING. HERE IN THE FIELD, WE SHOULD BE IN A POSITION TO MITIGATE THE NEGATIVE EFFECTS BY SPEAKING KNOWLEDGEABLY ON WHAT IS NOT POLICY AS WELL AS WHAT IS AND TO PREVENT GENERALIZATIONS ON THE BASIS OF PARTICULAR EXPERIENCES.

6. THE DEPARTMENT'S COMMENTS AND ADVICE WOULD BE MOST WELCOME AND APPRECIATED.

KENNEDY-MINOTT

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